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Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th, 55th, and 60th meetings, on 13 and 15 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.54, 55, and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/721 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/815);

(c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887 and Add.1).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.71

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Poland and coordinator of the informal consultations on this item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a

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draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" (A/C.5/56/L.71).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.71 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1393 (2002) of 31 January 2002,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/267 of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 11.3 million United States dollars, representing some 7 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only twenty-three Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

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[1] A/56/721 and Corr.1 and A/56/815.

[2] A/56/887 and Add.1.

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

5. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Observer Mission;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy, with particular regard to air transport;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Observer Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Performance report for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

10. *Takes note* of the financial performance report of the Mission for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

11. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia the amount of 33,143,700 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, inclusive of 31,705,800 dollars for the maintenance of the Observer Mission, 1,284,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 153,800 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi;

Financing of the appropriation

12. *Decides also* to apportion among Member States the amount of 33,143,700 dollars at a monthly rate of 2,761,975 dollars in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the General

[3] A/56/887/Add.1.

Assembly in its resolution 55/236, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2002 and 2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 1,966,700 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 at a monthly rate of 163,891 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 1,778,100 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the prorated share of 174,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the increase in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, and the prorated share of 13,700 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the reduction in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

14. *Decides further* that for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 4,047,197 dollars and their respective share of other income of 1,719,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolutions 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236, and taking into account the scale of assessment for the year 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B;

15. *Decides* that for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 4,047,197 dollars and other income of 1,719,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 14 above;

16. *Decides also* that the decrease in the staff assessment income of 498 dollars shall be set off against the credits from the unencumbered balance in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 referred to in paragraphs 14 and 15 above;

17. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Observer Mission;

19. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".